



the blooming news

NOVEMBER 2025



Happy November! We've got a very special newsletter for you this month ~ as we've recently celebrated a big birthday here at Moseley in Bloom. We've got lots to share with you in this bumper edition, and we hope you enjoy! If you have a story to share, then please do send an email to Carol at doctorcarolmiller@gmail.com. Many thanks, Carol Miller and Charlotte Jenkins.

Moseley in Bloom celebrates 20 years!

We were delighted to mark twenty years of Moseley in Bloom with a wonderful evening of reflection and celebration. Past and present Chairs, volunteers and supporters joined together to share memories and look ahead to the future. The evening highlighted how much has been achieved over two decades, from school gardens and community planting to Open Gardens and local partnerships, all made possible by dedicated volunteers and the wider Moseley community. It was a joyful occasion that captured the spirit of MiB: teamwork, creativity, and pride in our neighbourhood.

Sabreena Mahroof, Chair



And here's a message from one of our guests...

"Last night I had the joy of celebrating 20 years of Moseley in Bloom with so many familiar faces, past and present volunteers who've helped shape something really special in our community. It brought back memories of one of the biggest projects I was proud to help organise: the Meteoric Makeover.

Together, we transformed a derelict garage forecourt into a community edible garden on the railings, a project that not only brightened up Moseley but also brought in new volunteers, caught the attention of the press, and helped to win us Gold in the Heart of England in Bloom and Silver Gilt in the national Britain in Bloom awards. But Moseley in Bloom has always been about more than flowers. It's about...

Inspiring young people through schools, working with the Council to make our spaces safer and more welcoming ~ and building pride, resilience and connection across the community!

Hearing how the group has adapted through funding cuts and even the challenges of Covid was truly inspiring. Volunteers have shown that with creativity and determination, communities can not only survive but flourish. I left feeling energised and yes, I think it's time I rolled up my sleeves again to support this wonderful organisation! Here's to the next 20 years of colour, resilience, and community spirit in Moseley. I'll be back!"

Adam Styler



Roger Bache, President of the Heart of England in Bloom



Natalie Higgins, Founding Chair of Moseley in Bloom



Jenny Brewer, Loyal Volunteer

We also had some lovely comments from Moseley residents during the lead-up to our celebration. Here are just a few of them...

‘Congratulations to everyone, we can't believe it's 20 years..... And so much has been accomplished since then. Wishing you all a wonderful evening!’

‘At our Moseley Society Committee meeting this week we agreed how glad we are to have Moseley in Bloom and Moseley Litterbusters working so hard to keep Moseley looking clean, cheerful and cared for. Well done!’

‘I think Moseley in Bloom has been such a positive force for Moseley and I do hope it continues to thrive in spite of the challenges that face it’.

‘You’ve done great stuff this year and everyone’s work over twenty years has made a wonderful difference to Moseley and its sense of community’.

‘Over the last 20 years Moseley in Bloom has been such a positive force for good. We are all grateful for your hard work, enthusiasm, friendship and loyalty. Moseley is simply a lovelier place to live because of what you do! Long may it continue’.

This photo shows Chairs past and present — a reminder of the dedication and leadership that’s carried Moseley in Bloom through two decades of impact.

From L to R - *Sabreena Mahroof* current Chair since 2023; *Amy MacLean*, 2019-2022; *Natalie Higgins*, 2005-2008; *Jan Miller*, 2008-2011; *Benita Roberts* co-chair with *Amy MacLean*; *Jenny Brewer*, who has been there since the start in a magnificent supporting role; *Carol Miller*, 2012-2015.

Jean Gilkison and *Trevor Hocking* co-chaired from 2015-2018 but were unable to attend the event.

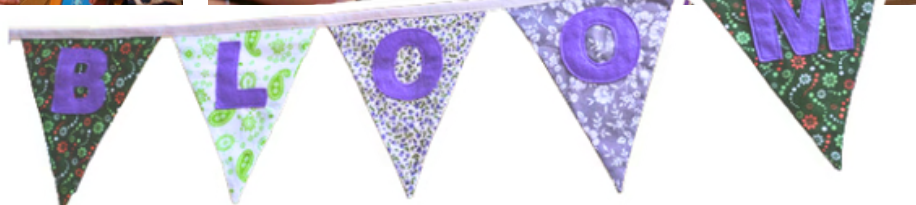
Photo credit from celebrations; *Chi Lam*



Photo credit for above; *Adam Styler*



Pictured above is Andy Roxburgh ~ barman, beekeeper and very loyal volunteer!



Keep up to date with Moseley in Bloom!

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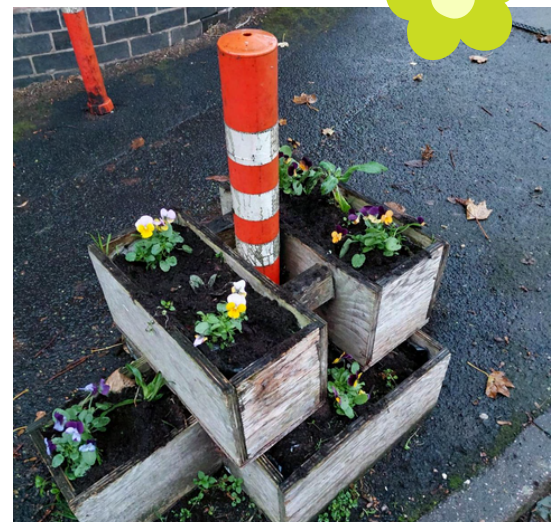


The Dovecote - Outstanding again!

Our friends at the Moseley Dovecote again entered the 'It's Your Neighbourhood' campaign of the Heart of England in Bloom and again they were classed as *outstanding*! This is a great achievement of the volunteers who garden there and welcome visitors to a very special corner of Moseley. The garden is always open to walk around and the Dovecote and Cow House will be open again to visitors next March on market days.

Kings Heath Nursery...

Our local plant nursery in Kings Heath Park is once again up and running well. They have beautiful winter plants - pansies, violas, cyclamen and more. Kasia is working hard to give the flamingoes a facelift. One is already lit up and the other is being lovingly repaired. Go and have a look. Cofton Nursery is also running again so let's support these wonderful resources!



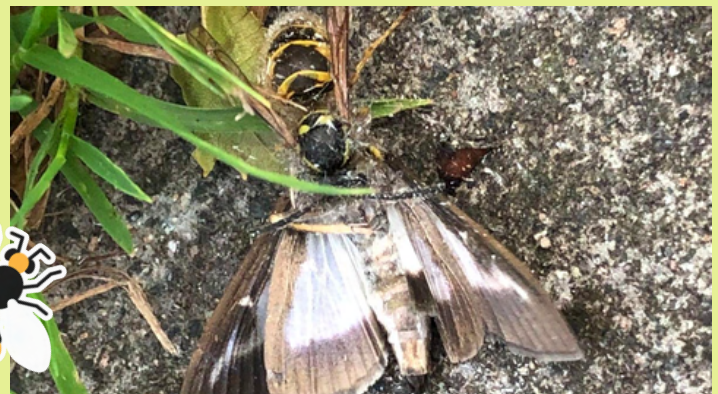
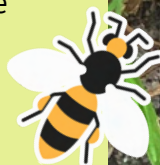
LTN planters - still flourishing...

Wendy Weston and I had a go at tidying up and replanting the School Road planters recently. Special thanks to Bridget's grand daughter, Sade, for helping with some bulb planting. She definitely has the makings of a keen gardener. We had several thank yous from passers-by and questions about why the seats had been removed as they were so much appreciated and are really missed. We still do not know why they went.

Shortly after, Wendy and her grand daughter, Daisy, planted pansies from Kings Heath Park nursery. Thank you everyone!

Box moth - the story continues...

Moseley residents Graeme Hodges and his son Toby discovered a wasp wrestling a Box Tree Moth on the walk to school. It was an epic battle and the wasp won! The wasp stung the moth. Then the moth wrapped its legs around the wasp. The wasp responded by tearing the moth's head off. That finished the job! It was quite exciting. Wasps are great because they battle pests!



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Working together!



Look at this lovely flower bed in the centre of Moseley. Palermo, Maison House, The Yard, Litterbusters and Moseley in Bloom worked together to help Moseley flourish.

Then, on 9 November, a dull but mild morning, no less than 11 volunteers were out planting in Moseley. With loads of plants they set about brightening up the centre of Moseley at the (former) Loo Bed, the Green, the tree bases and St Columba's Church yard. Together with the Litterbusters, who cleared leaves and rubbish, you can see the difference they made.



Then there was Halloween...

On 31 October, Sabreena and Jenny had a fantastic time judging the 'Scariest Spooks and Blooming Balconies' competition at Wake Green Park.

With categories like Spookiest Balcony, Best Pumpkin Display, Most Bootiful Balcony, and Most Surprising Theme, they saw everything from a giant spider to real black cats! The community spirit was incredible, especially on the torchlit walk. Laughter, spooky sounds, and even a Blair Witch-style display made it unforgettable.

